



REVIEWS

BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

ROGUE MESSIAHS: Tales of Self-Proclaimed Saviors by Colin Wilson

Publishers: Hampton Roads Publishing, USA, 2000; Virgin, UK, 2001 (to be published as "The Devil's Party" in March 2001, paperback only)

ISBN: 1-57174-175-5 (368pp hc, USA)

Price: £7.99; US\$22.95 + s&h

Available: **UK**—The Book Suppliers, tel 01206 255678; **USA**—Hampton Roads Publishing, tel (804) 296 2772, website www.hrpub.com

If there's a key message to be gleaned from Colin Wilson's latest book, *Rogue Messiahs*, it is that we are our own individual saviours, in control of our destiny without any need to give away personal power and truth to some self-proclaimed messiah.

It's astounding to see how history is littered with examples of apparently ordinary people who have become religious leaders, and over time have become violent, sexually promiscuous, paranoid and fanatical—and to see how history repeats itself. It's disquieting to realise how history is also repeated when ordinary people seeking something extraordinary can get so carried away that they lose their rational faculties and feed their leader's need for adoration and power. Some may even get caught up in crime.

Colin Wilson, prolific author of more than 80 books including *The Occult* and *From Atlantis to the Sphinx*, analyses the psychological make-up of these so-called "rogue messiahs" by delving into their personal histories and proclivities (but not necessarily

the wider conspiracy contexts), and the commonalities are both fascinating and disturbing. He describes a pattern that is more easily seen from the outside and often only seen in hindsight, but not by those in denial that their guru could be a cosmic conman.

Wilson doesn't dismiss spiritual teachers; it's just that so few of them *don't* get caught up in egotistical power trips. His narrative and insights could be helpful to those coming to terms with the disillusionment of realising that the object of their devotion may be more motivated by sex, power and profit than by love, spirit and truth.

RULE BY SECRECY

by Jim Marris

Publisher: HarperCollins, USA, 2000

ISBN: 0-06-019368-9 (467pp hc)

Price: A\$54.95; NZ\$84.95; £25.00 inc. p&h; US\$27.00; C\$41.50

Available: **Australia/New Zealand/USA**—HarperCollins Publishers; **UK**—NEXUS Office, tel +44 (0)1342 322854

It's a brave thing to try to summarise the entire history of Western conspiracy thinking in one volume, but investigative journalist Jim Marris attempts just that in *Rule by Secrecy*, and does it rather well.

Marris, author of *Alien Agenda*, is one of the few writers whose overview of conspiracies takes in the ultimate "what if" scenario: extraterrestrials, and the secret societies that may ultimately be their front. Curiously, this is a question that many diehard conspiracy researchers refuse to allow into their orb of thinking. A pattern emerges where the same elite names crop up on the same boards of companies involved in secret defence business as in banking, biotechnology, chemicals, drugs, food, media and oil.

So many of these names are also members of secret societies, be they secular or occult-based. Marris brings out the usual suspects, from the CFR, TC and Skull and Bones to the Rothschilds and the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

He then traces their fingerprints through to the Nazi and Thule cults, and weaves into the web the Theosophists and earlier occult movements including the Illuminati, Freemasons and Rosicrucians, the Knights Templar and Merovingians. He sees the ultimate source of the lineage in Sumeria and the influence of the Anunnaki gods.

While by no means the last word, Marris's book nevertheless conveys a sense of how big the big picture really is. Without being drawn to either side of the political fence, Marris calls on ordinary people to become more aware of those powers who would force the surrender of individual and national sovereignty, and to break free of cycles of control that have hindered humanity's evolutionary progress for millennia.



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MIND WARS:

The Battle For Your Brain by Ian McFadyen

Publisher: Allen & Unwin, Aust, 2000

ISBN: 1-865083-16-X (226pp tpb)

Price: A\$22.95; NZ\$29.95

Available: **Australia**—Allen & Unwin, tel (02) 8425 0100, website www.allen-unwin.com.au; **New Zealand**—Archetype/Allen & Unwin, tel (09) 377 3800

NEXUS readers might expect a book called *Mind Wars* to be about mind control technologies employed by covert intelligence agency operatives against unsuspecting targets. But this incisive commentary by Ian McFadyen, an Australian TV comedy actor, scriptwriter and producer as well as a former science journalist, is about mind control minus the high-tech: intelligent humans who allow themselves to become slaves to self-perpetuating belief systems.

To explain his perspective, McFadyen coined the term "tenetics": the study of tenets and how they control the replication and evolution of doctrines—just like biological systems—which thus control human beings, behaviour and ultimately our history and evolution. I'm reminded here of the great teacher Krishnamurti's advice that true freedom is beyond dogma, beyond the known, and in an equally well-reasoned way McFadyen makes a similar point. It's ironic, he says, that those with higher academic intelligence may be most susceptible to mental programming. Is it any wonder how readily certain sci/tech advances can be so stymied by institutions of higher learning?

Is there any way out of this bind of the "human condition"? Is the human condition really just conditioning by abstract information systems—ideas that reproduce themselves in extradimensional space? And how do we really know what's true? McFadyen offers some mechanisms to help us transcend the mental constructs implanted by doctrines affecting life, particularly in science and the arts. He also encourages us to be ever vigilant, rigorous and courageous in seeking to know our own minds.

THE DRAGON'S TAIL:

Rediscovering the Tenth Planet

by Anthony Austin & Brian Crowley

Publisher: IllumiNet Press, USA, 2000

ISBN: 1-881532-22-4 (246pp tpb)

Price: A\$35.00; NZ\$49.00; £14.95;

NLGfn/a; USD\$18.95 + s&h

Available: **Australia/NZ**—NEXUS offices; **UK**—Counter Productions, tel 020 7274 9009; **Europe**—Enquire NEXUS Office, tel +31 321 380558; **USA**—IllumiNet Press, tel (770) 279 2745; Adventures Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390

There has been much speculation about the possibility that a planet exists beyond the orbit of Pluto. The Sumerians knew it as "Nibiru", according to Zecharia Sitchin; some astronomers refer to it today as "Planet X"; and Anthony Austin (Pollock) and Brian Crowley, in *The Dragon's Tail*, call it "Draco". In their second collaboration since their 1989 book, *Return to Mars: A Search for Humanity's True Origins*, Austin and Crowley argue that Draco is the cause of doomsday cataclysms of varying degrees affecting Earth every 892 years.

The authors plot the chart of the errant

mythological planet since the end of the last ice age, around 12,159 BC, taking in the next catastrophe around 10,373 BC, the end of Atlantis in 9481 BC, Noah's Flood in 3237 BC, the Exodus Comet of 1453 BC, Velikovsky's Event of 800 BC, and, most recently, the Little Ice Age of AD 1223. They say the next event, which could result in a new ice age, a planetary axis shift, catastrophic-scale tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, is expected at Draco's next perihelion, when it is closest to Earth in the year 2115. And all that from a planet which is not yet acknowledged by science!

The authors of *The Dragon's Tail* owe much to Mother Shipton, and suggest this next flypast could be the one she foresaw. Could the "Dragon's tail" be the debris from this next planetary near-miss? Sprinkling scientific findings with mythology and eyewitness accounts from earlier civilisations, the authors are somewhat self-indulgent in getting their message across and also resort to wild speculation, which makes their thesis more difficult to digest than need be.





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MENACE IN THE MOUTH?

by Dr Jack Levenson, with Dr Robert Hempleman & Dr Tony Lees

Publisher: Brompton Health, UK, 2000
ISBN: 0-9534734-23-0 (312pp tpb)
Price: £12.00 inc. p&h in UK; foreign orders, telephone the Clinic for prices
Available: **UK**—Brompton Health Clinic, London, tel +44 020 7370 0055

According to Dr Jack Levenson, "there is nothing in medicine that can remotely compare with the health benefits achieved when mercury amalgam fillings are removed from sensitive patients". From my own experience, I'd have to concur with Dr Levenson. In *Menace in the Mouth?*, he explains why dental mercury is such a poisonous substance—and how considerable health benefits can be obtained by having it removed. Sweden has been a forerunner in the fight to ban the substance, and as of January 1999 its dental health insurance system no longer pays for amalgam fillings.

Mercury has had a long history over the millennia as a poison, though it has been used in dentistry in China since the 7th century because of its ability to dissolve other metals and recombine to harden into a solid mass. Experimentation started seriously in the early 1800s, and by the late 1870s mercury amalgam fillings had gained widespread professional and popular acceptance, despite a number of scientific papers linking mercury with a range of diseases.

Dr Levenson has been a vocal opponent of dental mercury for the last 20 years or so. He is currently president of the British Society for Mercury-Free Dentistry and is an

executive committee member of the Environmental Medicine Foundation. He is joined in this book by two other experts: Dr Robert Hempleman on root canal fillings, and Dr Tony Lees on the dangers of fluoride. If you've ever had niggling feelings about your mercury amalgam or root canal fillings, then read this book because it provides the kind of scientific back-up you need to take corrective action, whatever your dental health condition or symptoms.

EXTRATERRESTRIAL CONTACT: The Evidence and Implications by Steven M. Greer, MD

Publisher: Crossing Point, USA, 1999
ISBN: 0-9673238-0-0 (526pp tpb)
Price: £16.50 inc. p&h; US\$19.95 + US\$9.95 p&h in USA/Canada, + US\$19 to Aust/NZ/Asia, + US\$15 elsewhere
Available: **UK**—NEXUS Office, tel 01342 322854; **USA**—Crossing Point, POB 265, Crozet, VA 22932, tel 1-888-DR-GREER, fax (540) 456 8303, www.drgreer.com

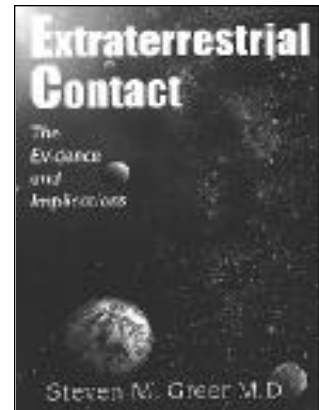
This is the kind of definitive book on the UFO/ET phenomenon that we would expect from one of the planet's most well-informed authorities on the subject: Steven Greer, MD, Founder and International Director of CSETI, the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence.

Not that Greer has actually had a close encounter of the first kind, but he has seen a UFO. He has also amassed an enormous amount of data from civilian and covert military sources around the world, and has established a vast reporting/ briefing network which ultimately might tip the balance towards UFO disclosure by the authorities. Due to his research and networking, he has

briefed President Clinton's first CIA Director Woolsey on CSETI's Project *Starlight*, addressed Congress and the UN and met with senior Pentagon officials.

So Dr Greer is well credentialed to posit this question in the first part of his book, *Extraterrestrial Contact*: what does the UFO/ET phenomenon mean? He discusses the implicit geopolitics and interplanetary relations, the possible terrestrial effects of disclosure, and the bigger reality of how space, time and mind are interrelated. The second part he devotes to key cases in recent decades, and the next part to an overview of CSETI Project *Starlight*, dedicated to explaining and overcoming UFO secrecy and promoting official disclosure. In the final part, he documents some of the huge *Starlight* paper trail in CSETI's dealings with the US government and its agencies.

Time will tell just how effective CSETI's lobbying is, but you have to admire the persistence and courage of Dr Greer and colleagues in trying to get the message through to our terrestrial powerbrokers.



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MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT SOUTH AMERICA

by Harold T. Wilkins

Publisher: AUP, USA, 2000 (first published in 1947)

ISBN: 0-932813-26-7 (190pp tpb)

Price: A\$33.00; NZ\$48.00; £14.00 inc.

p&h; NLGfn/a; US\$14.95 + s&h

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Eur**— NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited Press, PO Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946, tel (815) 253 6390, e-mail auphq@frontiernet.net, website www.wexclub.com/aup

This latest title in the Atlantis Reprint Series from Adventures Unlimited Press was first published in 1947. *Mysteries of Ancient South America*, by Harold T. Wilkins, is considered a classic in its genre but has been out of print for some time.

Wilkins travelled to South America in 1939 to try to verify his theory that Atlantis, or the ruins of an ancient Atlantean colony, might be found in unexplored parts of Brazil and the land further west. His conclusion was that a giant cataclysm had struck the planet in 9753 BC, to be precise, and that the New World had not escaped unscathed. The sacred Guatemalan *Popul Vuh*, for instance, describes "a great flood followed by a thick rain of bitumen and resin" which "accomplished the ruin of the race of man which was given up to destruction".

In this fascinating sourcebook, Wilkins uncovers old manuscripts, books and an "Atlantean" alphabet which all give description to the ancient civilisations which flourished around Brazil in antiquity. He sheds

light on the so-called "missionary men in black" who, according to traditions around the world and this region particularly, would suddenly appear to warn people of imminent disasters and just as quickly disappear.

Wilkins digs up enticing evidence for subterranean pre-Inca tunnels and strange lights and lost cities in the Amazon jungle. His discussion regarding the antiquity of the ruined city of Tiahuanaco is fascinating in view of recent geological findings and discoveries of artefacts beneath Lake Titicaca (see *Twilight Zone*, 7/06).

THE BOOK OF MAGNET HEALING

by Roger Coghill

Publisher: Gaia Books, UK, 2000;

Simon & Schuster, Australia, 2000

ISBN: 0-7318-1020-1 (127pp tpb)

Price: A\$29.95; NZ\$34.95; £10.99

Available: **Australia**—Simon & Schuster, tel (02) 9415 9900; **NZ**—Macmillan, tel (09) 415 6677; **UK**—Gaia Books, 20 High Street, Stroud, GL5 1AZ, tel 01453 752985; **Europe**—Enquire NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558

Well-known UK research biologist and author Roger Coghill has written a very practical guide in *The Book of Magnet Healing*. He brings to it the benefit of years of investigation, some of it gained in recent times through Coghill Research Laboratories which conducts empirical research into EM phenomena and their effects on health.

Coghill first takes us through the fundamentals of natural magnetism and discusses modern magnetic materials, endogenous fields, ions and geomagnetic variations.

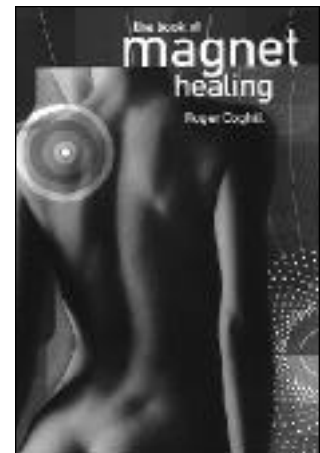
Next, he explores how artificial magnetic and electric fields can be detrimental to health, and he gives handy hints on how we

can protect ourselves in domestic and office environments (sometimes the best advice is to move!). He then describes the effects of power and high-voltage lines, electrified train lines, cellphones and transmitters, and summarises key case studies which link such EMFs with ill health.

In the third section, Coghill explains how and why magnets can help the natural course of healing in many common conditions including arthritis, constipation, cystitis, headaches, inflammation, insomnia, menstrual cramps, and muscle and joint pain.

He gives guidance on how to choose the right type of magnet for which condition and apply them therapeutically. He looks at the benefits of magnetised water and gives tips on treatments for plants and animals.

Some excellent resources are listed at the back of this jizzily designed book (the supplier information is mostly UK-based), and there are plenty of scientific and medical references that you can follow up.





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THE BOOK OF ENOCH THE PROPHET

translated by Richard Laurence

Publisher: AUP, USA, 2000 (first published in 1883 by William Clowes, UK)
ISBN: 0-932813-85-2 (189pp tpb)
Price: A\$35.00; NZ\$49.00; £15.50 inc. p&h; NLGfn/a; US\$16.95 + s&h

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Eur**— NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390, www.wexclub.com/aup

One of the Bible's most famous "lost books" is the Book of Enoch the Prophet, unearthed in Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) in 1773 by Scottish explorer James Bruce. Discovered as three manuscripts, it was translated into English from an Ethiopian Coptic script, held in the Bodleian Library, by Archbishop Richard Laurence in 1821, according to the frontispiece. Successive editions culminated in the 1883 version, reprinted here by AUP. It is believed the text was written in the 2nd or 1st century BC in Hebrew or Aramaic and was later translated into Greek, then into Ethiopian Coptic and Latin.

The Book of Enoch was an important influence on the early Jewish and Christian writers, but it was never included in the Christian canon. Its themes include apocalyptic visions, the actions of angels and demons, the Messianic age, the New Jerusalem, the Resurrection and the Final Judgement. Enoch, the son of Cain, communicates with the "fallen ones", whose interference in human affairs resulted in the introduction of evil into the world, and he is

instructed through visions from angels of light to tell these "outcasts" of their fate. The Book of Enoch is replete with parables, history, sacred science, dream symbolism, prophecies and much righteousness.

Enoch's transportation to Heaven, where he was supposedly shown the secrets of the Universe, has parallels in recent times with the explorations of Dr James Hurtak as described in his 1973 book, *The Keys of Enoch*. This book is important background for anyone interested in the bigger history of the Bible and intrigued to know why the Church fathers deemed to omit the Book of Enoch from the Old Testament.

PYRAMIDS IN THE PACIFIC

by Rex Gilroy

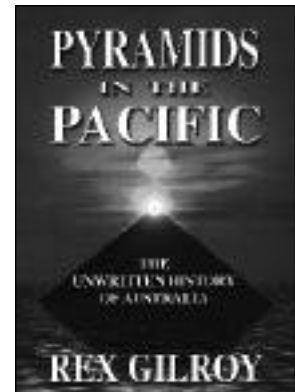
Publisher: Uru Publications, Aust, 2000
ISBN: 0-646-39633-1 (319pp l/f tpb)
Price: A\$50.00 + A\$5.00 p&h in Aust; overseas orders add A\$10.00 p&h
Available: **Australia**—Australian Pacific Archaeological Research Centre, PO Box 202, Katoomba NSW 2780, tel +61 (0)2 4782 3441, randhgilroy@mpx.com.au

Amateur archaeologist and historian Rex Gilroy has devoted decades to exploring Australia's hidden history—one that is not so readily acknowledged by mainstream academics. He's been the bane of university archaeology departments and the National Parks & Wildlife Service, yet fêted by thousands of ordinary people who have told him their stories of extraordinary discoveries and events in their lives. He has a style of his own and an admirable determination, having always self-funded his expeditions.

Gilroy's latest book, *Pyramids in the Pacific*, has been a work in progress for many years and has been enhanced by his

recent trips to New Zealand, though its focus is largely on Australia. Some of the material Gilroy touched on in *Mysterious Australia* (1995), but in this new, large-format volume he details more of the bigger picture that has both Australia and New Zealand settled in ages past by a megalithic people—whose writing might arguably be the world's first script—and visited by umpteen cultures in the last few thousand years.

Rex, together with Heather, his wife and devoted co-fieldworker, has uncovered an incredible array of evidence suggesting that the Great South Land had been a mining colony for waves of ancient Aryans, Sumerians, Egyptians, Phoenicians, Celts, Amerindians, Chinese, Japanese, Romans, Arabs and Polynesians, long before the Europeans (the Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, French and British) found their way. The remnant artefacts, inscriptions, coins, sculptures, monuments and structures (including the so-called Gympie Pyramid) deserve to be studied seriously for their heritage value as well as for the revised historical perspective they offer the world.



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THE VIVAXIS CONNECTION: Healing Through Earth Energies by Judy Jacka, ND

Publisher: Hampton Roads, USA, 2000
ISBN: 1-57174-208-5 (304pp tpb)
Price: A\$41.80; NZ\$52.95; £14.99;
US\$16.95

Available: **Australia**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9888 0111; **NZ**—Peaceful Living, tel (07) 571 8105; **UK**—Airlift Book Co., tel 020 8804 0400; **USA**—Hampton Roads Publishing Co., tel (804) 296 2772, website www.hrpub.com

The concept that we all have a "Vivaxis" energy connection to the Earth was pioneered by Canadian researcher Frances Nixon in the 1960s. Australian naturopathic doctor Judy Jacka worked with Nixon from 1979 and has found Vivaxis science to be "a remarkable development in restoring and harmonising body energies".

The Vivaxis (a term meaning "life axis") is a sphere of energy created during the last two weeks before birth, which connects our etheric and electromagnetic energy fields with the Earth's. We are connected to this sphere by a two-way flow of energy—a circuit—through life, no matter how far we travel from its location. This connection, comprising both vertical and horizontal energy waves, can be recognised through dowsing and related techniques. When interference to our Vivaxis occurs, whether from chemical, electromagnetic or psychological sources, the flow of subtle energy in our physical bodies becomes chaotic and our immune and nervous systems are affected, thus causing ill health. But when that

Vivaxis link is properly restored, our bodies can readjust and become healthy again.

Nixon also discovered that we have body receptors, each receptor point responding to a particular frequency of a mineral essential for health (iron, calcium, magnesium, etc.) and receiving mineral frequencies from the Earth via our Vivaxis and the planet's energy layers. This observation has huge potential indeed in natural healing applications.

Judy Jacka has produced a comprehensive guide to understanding Vivaxis dynamics and applying this life energy via 29 simple exercises that have diagnostic, cleansing and revitalising purposes for the individual as well as the environment. An important contribution to 21st century medicine.

DOLPHIN HEALING by Horace Dobbs

Publisher: Piatkus, UK, 2000
ISBN: 0-7499-2079-3 (368pp hc)
Price: A\$32.83; NZ\$44.95; £10.99
Available: **Australia**—Hodder Headline, tel (02) 8248 0800; **NZ**—David Bateman Ltd, tel (09) 415 7664; **UK**—Piatkus Books, tel 020 7631 0710; **USA/Canada**—General Publishing, tel (416) 445 3333

Dolphins may have become the darlings of New Age adherents, but there's good reason to reassess their wonders in terms of first-hand scientific and medical research. In *Dolphin Healing*, his 10th book on the subject, Horace Dobbs, founder of The Oxford Underwater Research Group, puts a personal spin on his work (and play) with dolphins over more than two decades.

He describes what inspired him to research dolphins in the first place, how he discovered their communicative magic and healing powers, and how he has explored the thera-

peutic, transformational approach of swimming with dolphins. Having studied dolphins in the wild, Dobbs turned his attention to recreating interactions under artificial conditions. Here he recounts a number of moving cases: children and adults who have been cured of deep depression, whose terminal cancers have regressed, who have recovered from trauma, who have awoken from autism to speak their first words—all because of dolphin-assisted therapy. It seems clear that such interaction can have positive physical, emotional and spiritual effects, but even Dobbs suggests it is best coupled with other conventional and/or complementary treatments.

Dobbs looks at scientific evidence that dolphin ultrasounds can stimulate T-cell production, thus being of help to patients with compromised immune systems. The more we know about sound therapy, the more this makes sense. He also reinforces the idea that dolphins can provide a channel through which love can flow—and love is the greatest vibrational healing energy of all!





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REALM OF THE RING LORDS

by Laurence Gardner

Publisher: MediaQuest, UK, 2000

ISBN: 0-9537686-7-8 (422pp hc)

Price: £18.99 in UK; £26.00 to Aust/NZ;

US\$36.95 inc. s&h to USA/Canada

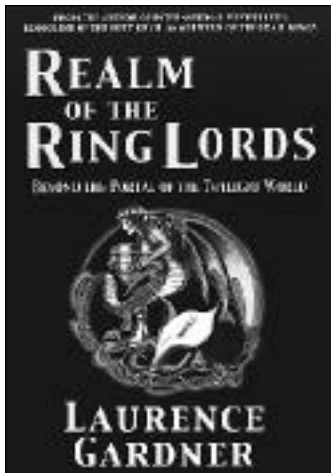
Available: UK—NEXUS Office, tel +44

(0)1342 322854, fax +44 (0)1342 324574,

e-mail nexus@ukoffice.u-net.com

NEXUS Conference-goers and readers have already had a sneak-peek into the territory of Sir Laurence Gardner's new book, *Realm of the Ring Lords* (see 6/05–6). It's complementary to *Bloodline of the Holy Grail* and *Genesis of the Grail Kings* in that it pursues the mythology and history of a quest that was concurrent with, if not one and the same as, the Grail: the Ring Quest.

The symbolism of the Ring, representing wholeness, unity and eternity, goes back at least 5,000 years, Gardner explains, to the "earliest of Sumerian and Scythian times" and the influence of the so-called Anunnaki overlords. The Ring lore, preserved in fairy tales, myths and the Western collective



memory, is actually based on historical personalities and events. But these great narratives of questing, like those of the Grail, were subverted and trivialised by the Church from the time of the Dark Ages, for at their core was the goal of individual enlightenment—which was anathema to an institution hellbent on controlling souls and minds.

Thus scenarios depicting pixies, elves, fairies, gnomes, goblins and sprites, and tales featuring Cinderella, Robin Hood, the Sleeping Beauty and Count Dracula, are more than mere fantasy. Here, Gardner brings them back to life (aided, too, by some beautiful colour plates) within historical contexts and human dramas as Dragon Queens and Albigenian Grail Kings of the

Elven bloodline, and he re-establishes their long-lost lineages in a series of detailed genealogical charts.

The Western spiritual and cultural heritage comes from a source more ancient than religious and academic teachings concede.

Gardner admits he can only scratch the surface of the culture of concealment, but he does an admirable job in awakening us to a vast, rich, underground stream of history.

MYSTERY IN ACAMBARO

by Charles H. Hapgood

Intro & Foreword by D.H. Childress

Publisher: Adventures Unlimited Press,

USA, 2000 (first published in 1973)

ISBN: 0-932813-76-3 (153pp tpb)

Price: A\$33.00; NZ\$48.00; £14.00 inc.

p&h; NLGfn/a; US\$14.95 + s&h

Available: Aust/NZ/UK/Eur— NEXUS

offices; USA—Adventures Unlimited, tel

(815) 253 6390, www.wexclub.com/aup

A curious collection of fired clay figurines was discovered in Acámbaro, central Mexico, in 1944 by Waldemar Julsrud, a local German businessman and amateur archaeologist. In the mid-1960s, geologist/anthropologist Charles Hapgood (author of *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings* and *Path of the Pole*), together with Earle Stanley Gardner (author of the Perry Mason mysteries) set out to determine the alleged antiquity of the bizarre objects, many of which depicted dinosaur- and monster-like creatures, sometimes in the company of humans and even reptilian alien figures.

In 1973, Professor Hapgood wrote an unpublished booklet, *Mystery in Acámbaro* (reprinted here in full), wherein he discusses the feasibility of these figurines being sourced from an ancient culture, and the results of radiocarbon tests that suggest the artefacts could be anywhere from 6,500 to 3,100 years old. Thermoluminescence testing yielded a date of 2500 BC: 4,500 years old, and coinciding with the occupation of the Pyramid of Cuicuilco, according to Hapgood. Yet the source and purpose of these clay figures, 33,500 objects in all, still eludes definitive explanation.

Author/explorer David Hatcher Childress has reprinted Professor Hapgood's study and adds his own embellishments with a foreword titled "Did dinosaurs survive until recently?", and an introduction, "The Reality of Dragons". If these artefacts are ancient, we have to question how such images were known to the local people, and Childress suggests there is evidence that dinosaurs still exist in remote parts of the world. But if they are recent, this means they are a hoax. Yet looking at the photos, you have to marvel at the sheer numbers of figurines produced and the imagination employed.

REVIEWS



VIDEOS

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

THE SECRET NASA TRANSMISSIONS: "THE SMOKING GUN"

Produced by UFO Central Home Video, USA, 2000 (PAL/VHS & NTSC/VHS, 90mins)

Price: £16.99 inc. p&h; US\$29.00 + p&h

Available: **UK**—*UFO Magazine*, Ilkley, West Yorks., tel 01943 816611, website www.ufomag.co.uk; **USA**—UFO Central Home Video, 2321 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Suite 201, Venice, CA 90291, tel 1800 350 4639, e-mail ufocentral@earthlink.net, website www.ufocentral.com

This tape is rumoured to be "the most popular underground tape among astronauts", and I can sort of see why.

Approximately one hour of this 90-minute video is taken up by a fascinating interview with Martyn Stubbs. Stubbs is a former cable TV station manager from Canada, who, over a period of five years, used his station's resources to record over 2,500 hours of NASA's downlink signals from space shuttle missions.



He describes in detail how, using split-frame viewing techniques, he was able to obtain evidence of two different life-forms, both of which appear to live in the near-space region of Earth. These two life-forms are distinct from UFOs, I should point out.

Stubbs also relates how he took his findings to the relevant agencies and experts for explanation.

This is all-important background information, and, though it takes up about two-thirds of the tape, it helps you make more sense of the final 30 minutes as you already know something of what is being shown and what to look out for in the frames.

All in all, a totally fascinating subject, and one I'm sure we will hear more about.

OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE: A GLIMPSE OF IMMORTALITY

Produced by Wagner Alegretti and Nanci Trivellato for IIPC, 2000 (PAL/VHS & NTSC/VHS, 56mins)

Price: £22.00 + £2 p&h; US\$29.00 + p&h

Available: **UK**—International Institute of Projectiology and Conscientiology, London, tel +44 020 7723 0544, e-mail London@iipc.org; **USA**—IIPC, New York, tel +1 (212) 869 4595, 1800 778 3778 (toll free in US), e-mail newyork@iipc.org, website www.iipc.org

Regular readers of NEXUS will have worked out by now that I am already an ardent advocate of research into "out-of-body experiences" (OBEs), but this video has inflamed my interest even more.



As well as being a top-quality presentation in terms of special effects, sound, etc., it is also top quality in terms of clarity of information. The video starts off with a special-effect sequence of an OBE, ending with the sudden "return to body" of the central character who proceeds to investigate his experience at the International Institute of Projectiology and Conscientiology (IIPC). It continues with some of the most interesting lecture footage on this subject that I have ever encountered.

The video covers scientific research and laboratory experiments conducted to prove the reality of the OBE. It also explores exercise techniques to enhance conditions conducive to OBEs. It contains first-hand accounts from students at the Institute; reveals techniques for psychic protection and energy recharging; and examines the many types of OBE experience reported by millions of people around the world.

This is the perfect video for anyone interested in astral projection, OBE, remote viewing and the like. It is extremely informative and well produced. Above all, it contains practical and useful tips to get one started immediately.



REVIEWS

MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

AFRIKA WASSA

by **Vieux Diop**

Producer: Brian Keane for Triloka, USA, 2000 (59mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—Festival Records, tel (02) 9395 8000; **USA**—Triloka, tel 1800 578 4419 (toll-free in Nth America), website www.triloka.com

Vieux Diop has made many quality albums in tribute to his African homeland and heritage. "Afrika Wassa" means "New Africa", and this is his praise for what Africa will become. The laid-back sound of Senegalese songs of land, work and longing is heartfelt. Vieux is backed here by Brian Keane, Neal Clarke, Tony Cedras, Bakithi Kumalo, Faruk Tekbilek and many others. The music is light, happy and rhythmic, conveying a feeling of support for the many trials and joys of life.

MASTER MUSICIANS OF JAJOUKA

featuring **Bachir Attar**

Producer: Talvin Singh for Point Music/Universal Music Co., 2000 (66mins)

Distributors: **Australia/NZ/UK/USA**—Universal Music, website www.universalclassics.com

The Master Musicians of Jajouka are from the foothills of the Rif Mountains, south of Tangier in Morocco. Born into a special musicians' family, they have received royal patronage for centuries. In traditional Morocco, musicians are considered magicians who possess the power to heal and communicate with the spirits of the land and animals. In 1968, Brian Jones of The Rolling Stones was introduced to these men and their music in Jajouka, and then brought their uniqueness to the world. Talvin Singh mixes Indian tradition with North African to present an energised, hypnotic performance by the Master Musicians.

FIESTA BRASIL

by various artists

Producer: Dan Storper for Putumayo World Music, NY, USA, 2000 (45mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—MRA, tel (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Putumayo, tel (212) 625.1400, website www.putumayo.com

Another excellent Putumayo compilation, this explores the music of Brazilian reggae and the accordion-led *fornó* dance music style. All are very danceable tracks that use accordion, triangles and percussion. The predominant musical style is from the north-eastern areas of Brazil, and it is very much

influenced by the sounds of Bob Marley. In Brazil, one of the fundamental human rights is the freedom to party, and *Fiesta Brasil* is a recorded statement of this most important right. A jaunty, peppy album of dance.

COUSTEAU'S DREAM

A Benefit Album

Producer: Terence Yallop for Real Music, CA, USA, 2000 (56mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—MRA Ent., tel (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Real Music, tel (415) 331 8273, website www.realmusic.com

The Real Music company donates a proportion of income from album sales towards Earth repair projects via the EarthSea Institute which it founded in 1989. For this compilation, musicians Vangelis, Yanni, Kitaro, Kenny G, Tim Wheeler, Richard Burmer and more have contributed tracks in aid of The Cousteau Society and other groups aiming to see the oceans and the entire planet preserved and protected. This is a beautiful mix of ambient and passionate poetry and power.

THE GOLDEN PORTAL

by **Xumantra**

Producer: Marco Dolce for Dreambird Music, Xonic, NJ, USA, 2000 (49mins)

Distributor: **USA**—Xonic, tel +1 (908) 876 9967

Marco Dolce (Xumantra) has performed throughout Europe and the US in fields as diverse as jazz, rhythm and blues, funk and Afro-Cuban. His musical explorations have taken him to the sounds of the singing bowls and sacred metals of gongs, bells and kalimbas to create music both gentle and powerful. For *The Golden Portal*, his third album, he blends the singing bowls with acoustic instruments (nothing synthesised), creating each composition as a sonic message. This is a beautiful exploration of subtle, melodic and ancient tones.

